

December 29, 1997

NEW MEANS TEST THRESHOLDS - 1998

1. PURPOSE: This Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Directive releases the revised Means Test Thresholds, Medicare Deductible Rates, and Child Income Exclusions for Calendar Year 1998.

2. POLICY: It is Veterans Health Administration policy to release revised Means Test Thresholds, Medicare Deductible Rate, and Child Income Exclusion for each calendar year in an appropriate and timely manner.

3. ACTION: All Facilities will begin to use these new rates starting January 1, 1998.

a. The following new Means Test Thresholds are effective January 1, 1998, through December 31, 1998:

(1) Veterans with no dependents:

(a) Category A: \$22,064.

(b) Category C: \$22,065.

(2) Veterans with 1 dependent:

(a) Category A: \$26,480.

(b) Category C: \$26,481.

(3) Veterans with 2 dependents:

(a) Category A: \$27,956.

(b) Category C: \$27,957.

(4) Veterans with 3 dependents:

(a) Category A: \$29,432.

(b) Category C: \$29,433.

(5) Veterans with 4 dependents:

(a) Category A: \$30,908.

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(b) Category C: \$30,909.

(6) Veterans with 5 dependents:

(a) Category A: \$32,384

(b) Category C: \$32,385

(7) Veterans with 6 dependents:

(a) Category A: \$33,860. **NOTE:** *Add \$1,476 for each additional dependent above 6.*

(b) Category C: \$33,861. **NOTE:** *Add \$1,476 for each additional dependent above 6.*

b. The following information should be used to enter the data listed in paragraph a into VistA:

(1) Select Means test Data: 1998.

(2) Means Test Data: 1998.

(3) Category A Veteran Income: \$22,064.

(4) Category A first Dependent Income: \$4,416.

(5) Category A Income Per Dependent: \$1,476.

(6) Threshold property: \$50,000.

(7) Child Income Exclusion for calendar year 1998 is: \$6,950.

c. The Medicare deductible for calendar year 1998 is \$764.

d. The income and/or asset threshold for net worth development for calendar year 1998 is \$50,000.

e. Maximum annual Rate of Pension for calendar year 1998: Base rate: \$8,665 single; \$11,349 with 1 dependent; plus \$1,476 each additional dependent.

4. REFERENCES: None.

5. FOLLOW-UP RESPONSIBILITY: Director, Health Administration Service (10C3), is responsible for the content of this Directive.

6. RESCISSION: This VHA Directive will be rescinded on December 31, 1998.

S/ P. Galyean for
Kenneth W. Kizer, M.D., M.P.H.
Under Secretary for Health

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